

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are currently pending in the subject application, and are presently under consideration. Claims 1-25 are rejected. Claims 8, 14 and 18 have been amended to correct minor informalities. Applicant's representative respectfully submits that the amendments to claims 8, 14 and 18 are not meant to limit the claims in any manner. Favorable reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the amendments and comments herein.

I. Objection of Claims 5, 10, 14, 15, 19 and 23

Claims 5, 10, 14-15, 19 and 23 have been objected to because of informalities. As stated above, claim 14 has been amended to correct the informalities. Accordingly, Applicant's representative respectfully submits that claim 14 is no longer objectionable.

Additionally, claims 5, 10, 15, 19 and 23 recite that a command signal comprises a one byte command identification, wherein one bit of the one byte command identification comprises one of stop, play, forward, reverse and pause of a video file and a pointer command. Applicant's representative respectfully submits that claims 5, 10, 15, 19 and 23 are fully supported by the Specification. The Specification discloses that a command ID section may be a one byte section where each respective bit of the byte may indicate a specific operation or command (See Spec., Para. [0027]). In contrast to the contention of the Examiner, there is no requirement that a pointer command be included with another command, such that there are at least two commands. Thus, claim 5, 10, 15, 19 and 23 are not objectionable.

For the reasons stated above Applicant's respectfully requests that the objection to claims 5, 10, 14-15, 19 and 23 be withdrawn.

II. Rejection of Claims 1, 2, 4, 7-9, 12-14, 17, 18, 21, 22 and 25 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1, 2, 4, 7-9, 12-14, 17, 18, 21, 22 and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,808,662 to Kinney, et al. ("Kinney") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,867,156 to Beard, et al. ("Beard"). Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 recites a method comprising selecting at least one frame of a video file at a first location, communicating the selecting of the at least one frame of the video file to a second location and viewing the at least one frame of a video file at the first location and the second location. Claim 1 also recites issuing a command at the first location regarding a control operation of the video file and transmitting a command signal from the second location to the first location in response to the issued command. Claim 1 further recites receiving, at the first location, the command signal, broadcasting the command signal from the first location to the second location and performing, at the first location and the second location, the control operation in response to receipt of the command signal.

Kinney, taken in view of Beard, does not make claim 1 obvious. Applicant's representative agrees that Kinney does not teach or suggest broadcasting a command signal from a first location to a second location and performing, at the first and second location, a control operation in response to receipt of the command signal, as recited in claim 1. However, in contrast to the contention of the Examiner, the addition of Beard does not make up for the deficiencies of Kinney. In rejecting claim 1, the Examiner cites Col. 6, Lines 23-56 of Beard (See Office Action, Page 6). However, the cited section of Beard discloses that an application sharing guest application (ASGA) 38 issues a REQUEST TO SYNC message 56 to an application sharing host application (ASHA) 37 of host 30 and the ASHA 37 issues a SYNC TO POINT command 55 to an ASGA 38 of all participating guests (See Beard, Col. 6, Lines 49-56). In claim 1, the same command signal is sent from a second location, to a first location, and broadcast from the first location to the second location. Instead, Beard discloses that two separate commands are issued, namely a REQUEST TO SYNC and a SYNC TO POINT.

Moreover, claim 1 recites performing, at the first and second location, a control operation in response to receipt of the command signal. Beard discloses that the SYNC TO POINT command is converted by each guest to its respective local screen coordinates (See Beard, Col. 6, Lines 54-56). In Beard, nothing teaches or suggests that the SYNC TO POINT command is ever executed on the host. In fact, as illustrated in FIG. 4A and FIG. 4B of Beard, the host viewpoint 42 displays the entire viewable area, such that there would be no need to change the screen

orientation of the host viewpoint 42. Therefore, taken individually, or in combination, Kinney and Beard do not teach or suggest broadcasting a command signal from the first location to a second location and performing, at the first location and the second location, a control operation in response to receipt of the command signal, as recited in claim 1. Thus, Kinney and Beard, taken individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest each and every element of claim 1. Accordingly, Kinney and Beard do not make claim 1 obvious, and claim 1 should be patentable over the cited art.

Claims 2, 4 and 7 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 1 and are not obvious for at least the same reasons as claim 1, and for the specific elements recited therein. Accordingly, claims 2, 4 and 7 should be patentable over the cited art.

Additionally, claim 2 recites communicating a selecting of at least one frame of a video file to a third location and viewing the at least one frame of the video file at the third location with a first location and a second location. Claim 2 also recites wherein a broadcasting a command signal from a first location to a second location further comprises broadcasting the command signal to the third location and performing, at the first location, the second location and the third location a control operation in response to receipt of the command signal. Claim 2 further illustrates that the same command signal recited in claim 1, from which claim 2 depends, is sent multiple times. In claim 2, the command signal is sent from a second location to a first location, and broadcast from the first location to the second and third locations. As stated above, neither Kinney nor Beard teaches or suggests broadcasting a command signal from the first location to a second location and performing, at the first and second location, a control operation in response to receipt of the command signal, as recited in claim 1. Therefore, neither Kinney nor Beard teaches or suggests broadcasting a command signal from a first location to a second location comprises broadcasting the command signal to a third location and performing, at the first location, the second location and the third location a control operation in response to receipt of the command signal, as recited in claim 2. Thus, Kinney taken in view of Beard fails to teach or suggest each and every element of claim 2.

Kinney taken in view of Beard does not make claim 8 obvious. Similarly to claim 1, claim 8 recites that the same command signal is sent from a second system to a first system, and broadcast to the second system and a third system. As stated above with respect to claim 1, in Beard, a guest issues a REQUEST TO SYNC command, and a host responds with a SYNC TO POINT command. Clearly, in Beard, the REQUEST TO SYNC and the SYNC TO POINT are different commands. Additionally, nothing in Beard teaches or suggests that the SYNC TO POINT command is ever executed on the host. Therefore, Beard also does not teach or suggest broadcasting a command signal from a first system to a second system and a third system and performing an operation corresponding to a transmitted command signal at the first system, the second system and the third system, as recited in claim 8. Accordingly, Kinney taken in view of Beard does not teach or suggest each and every element of claim 8. Therefore, Kinney taken in view of Beard does not make claim 8 obvious, and claim 8 should be patentable over the cited art.

Claims 9 and 12 depend from claim 8 and are not obvious for at least the same reasons as claim 8, and for the specific elements recited therein. Accordingly, claims 9 and 12 should be patentable over the cited art.

Kinney taken in view of Beard does not make claim 13 obvious. Similarly to claims 1 and 8, claim 13 recites that the same command signal is sent from a second system to a first system, and broadcast to the second system from the first system. As stated above with respect to claims 1 and 8, in Beard, a guest issues a REQUEST TO SYNC command, and a host responds with a SYNC TO POINT command. Clearly, in Beard, the REQUEST TO SYNC and the SYNC TO POINT are different commands. Additionally, nothing in Beard teaches or suggests that the SYNC TO POINT command is ever executed on the host. Therefore, Kinney taken in view of Beard does not teach or suggest simultaneously performing at least one operation on a first video screen and a second video screen by transmitting at least one command signal across a communications network from a second system to a first system and broadcasting the at least one command signal to the second system from the first system across the communication network, as recited in claim 13. Accordingly, Kinney and Beard, taken

individually or in combination do not teach or suggest each and every element of claim 13. Thus, Kinney taken in view of Beard does not make claim 13 obvious, and claim 13 should be patentable over the cited art.

Claims 14 and 17 depend from claim 13 and are not obvious for substantially the same reasons as claim 13, and for the specific elements recited therein. Accordingly, claims 14 and 17 should be patentable over the cited art.

Regarding claim 14, similarly to claim 2, claim 14 further illustrates that the same command signal recited in claim 13, from which claim 14 depends, is sent multiple times. In the case of claim 14, the command signal is sent from a second location to a first location, and broadcast from the first location to the second location and a third location. As stated above with respect to claims 1 and 8, neither Kinney nor Beard, taken individually or in combination teaches or suggests broadcasting a command signal from the first location to a second location. Therefore, Kinney and Beard taken individually or in combination also fail to teach or suggest broadcasting at least one command signal to a second system and a third system from a first system across the communication network, as recited in claim 14. Accordingly, Kinney taken in view of Beard does not teach or suggest each and every element of claim 14.

Kinney taken in view of Beard does not make claim 18 obvious. Similarly to claims 1, 8 and 13, claim 18 recites that the same command signal (the second command signal) is received from a second computer system, and broadcast to the second computer system from a first computer system. As stated above with respect to claims 1, 8 and 13, in Beard, a guest issues a REQUEST TO SYNC command, and a host responds with a SYNC TO POINT command. Clearly, in Beard, the REQUEST TO SYNC and the SYNC TO POINT are different commands. Additionally, nothing in Beard teaches or suggests that the SYNC TO POINT command is ever executed on the host. Therefore, Kinney taken in view of Beard does not teach or suggest broadcasting a second command signal from a first computer system to a second computer system, wherein the second command signal causes the second computer system to perform a second control operation in response to receipt of the second command signal and performing the second control operation on the first computer system in response to receipt of the second

command signal, as recited in claim 18. Accordingly, taken individually or in combination, Kinney and Beard do not teach or suggest each and every element of claim 18. Therefore, Kinney taken in view of Beard does not make claim 18 obvious, and claim 18 should be patentable over the cited art.

Claim 21 depends from claim 18 and is not obvious for at least the same reasons as claim 18, and for the specific elements recited therein. Accordingly, claim 21 should be patentable over the cited art.

Claim 22 recites a computer system comprising at least one processing unit, at least a video display and at least one storage device, the storage device tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the processing unit to perform a method comprising broadcasting a first command signal from the computer system to another computer system regarding a first control operation of a video file. Claim 22 also recites performing the first control operation on the computer system and receiving a second command signal from the another computer system regarding a second control operation of the video file. Claim 22 further recites broadcasting the second command signal from the computer system to the another computer system, wherein the second command signal causes the another computer system to perform the second control operation in response to receipt of the second command signal, and performing the second control operation on the computer system in response to receipt of the second command signal from the another computer system.

Kinney taken in view of Beard does not make claim 22 obvious. Similarly to claims 1, 8, 13 and 18, claim 22 recites that the same command signal (the second command signal) is received from another computer system, and broadcast to the another computer system from a computer system. As stated above with respect to claims 1, 8, 13 and 18, in Beard, a guest issues a REQUEST TO SYNC command, and a host responds with a SYNC TO POINT command. Clearly, in Beard, the REQUEST TO SYNC and the SYNC TO POINT are different commands. Additionally, nothing in Beard teaches or suggests that the SYNC TO POINT command is ever executed on the host. Therefore, Kinney taken in view of Beard does not teach or suggest broadcasting a second command signal from a computer system to another computer system,

wherein the second command signal causes the another computer system to perform a second control operation in response to receipt of the second command signal and performing the second control operation on the computer system in response to receipt of the second command signal from the another computer system, as recited in claim 22. Thus, taken individually or in combination, Kinney and Beard, do not teach or suggest each and every element of claim 22. Accordingly, Kinney taken in view of Beard does not make claim 22 obvious, and claim 22 should be patentable over the cited art.

Claim 25 depends from claim 22 and is not obvious for at least the same reasons as claim 22 and for the specific elements recited therein. Accordingly, claim 25 should be patentable over the cited art.

For the reasons described above, claims 1, 2, 4, 7-9, 12-14, 17, 18, 21, 22 and 25 should be patentable over the cited art. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

III. Rejection of Claims 6, 11, 16, 20 and 24 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 6, 11, 16, 20 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kinney in view of Beard as applied to claims 1, 8, 13, 18 and 22 and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,230,171 to Pacifici, et al. ("Pacifici"). Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested for at least the following reasons.

Claims 6, 11, 16, 20 and 24 depend from claims 1, 8, 13, 18 and 22, respectively. The further addition of Pacifici does not make up for the aforementioned deficiencies of Kinney taken in view of Beard, with respect to claims 1, 8, 13, 18 and 22 from which claims 6, 11, 16, 20 and 24 respectively depend. Therefore, Applicant's representative respectfully submits that claim 6, 11, 16, 20 and 24 should be patentable over the cited art. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

IV. Rejection of Claims 3, 5, 10, 15, 19 and 23 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 3, 5, 10, 15, 19 and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kinney in view of Beard as applied to claim 1, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,343,313 to Salesky, et al. ("Salesky"). Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested for at least the following reasons.

Claims 3 and 5 depend from claim 1, while claim 10 depends from claim 8, claim 15 depends from claim 13, claim 19 depends from 18 and claim 23 depends from claim 22. The further addition of Salesky does not make up for the aforementioned deficiencies of Kinney taken in view of Beard with respect to claims 1, from which claims 3 and 5 depend, claim 8, from which claim 10 depends, claim 13, from which claim 15 depends, claim 18 from which claim 19 depends and claim 22, from which claim 23 depends. Therefore, Applicant's representative respectfully submits that claims 3, 5 10, 15, 19 and 23 should be patentable over the cited art.

Additionally, claims 3, 5, 10, 15, 19 and 23 all recite that a command signal comprises a one byte command identification. The Examiner contends that Salesky discloses a one byte command identification (See Office Action, Page 18, Citing Salesky Col. 11, Lines 19-55). Applicant's representative respectfully disagrees with this contention. Salesky discloses sending commands that only require about 12 bytes of data (See Salesky, Col. 11, Lines 35-37). Salesky also discloses that 300 data bytes could be compressed to as little as 5 data bytes (See Salesky, Col. 11, Lines 46-52). Claims 3, 5, 10, 15, 19 and 23 all recite that a command signal comprises a one byte command identification. Nothing in Salesky discloses that data could be compressed to one byte. Therefore, Kinney taken in view of Beard and in further view of Salesky does not teach or suggest each and every element of claims 3, 5, 10, 15, 19 and 23.

Moreover, the Examiner contends that the concept of bytes are not inventive as bytes are well known (See Office Action, Page 18). In as much as bytes are well known, Applicant's representative respectfully submits that a command signal comprising a one byte command identification is a patentable idea, as recited in claim 3, 5, 10, 15, 19 and 23, since in the cited art, a larger number of bytes (e.g., 5 bytes as disclosed in Salesky) are needed to convey useful

information. Reducing the number of bytes required to send a command signal results in a reduction of network latency, and a reduced operational bandwidth, both of which are desirable. Accordingly, Applicant's representative respectfully submits that claims 3, 5, 10, 15, 19 and 23 recite inventive subject matter.

Furthermore, claims 5, 10, 15, 19 and 23 also recite that one bit of a one byte command identification comprises one stop, play, forward, reverse and pause of a video file and a pointer command. Nothing in Salesky teaches or suggest that any one bit of data can characterize any particular data. Therefore, in addition to the reasons stated above, Kinney taken in view of Beard and in further view of Salesky does not teach or suggest each and every element of claims 5, 10, 15, 19 and 23.

For the reasons described above, claims 3, 5, 10, 15, 19 and 23 should be patentable over the cited art. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

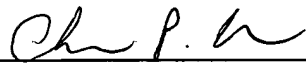
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant's representative respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Applicant's representative respectfully requests reconsideration of this application and that the application be passed to issue.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the fees for this amendment to our Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 7-11-06



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